SECTION I—CLAIMS

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please enter new claims 33-34.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method comprising:

issuing a plurality of operational descriptors ~~commands~~ to a controller, wherein the operational descriptors ~~commands~~ are issued in a first order and wherein each operational descriptor ~~command~~ includes a command, a memory address identifying a memory location to which a ~~the~~ completion status of the command will be written, and a value to be written upon completion of the command; and

indicating the completion status of commands in a second order, wherein the second order is different from the first order.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1 ~~2~~ wherein the memory address included in the operational descriptor ~~command~~ is an absolute address.

4. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1 ~~2~~ wherein the memory address included in the operational descriptor ~~command~~ is an offset from a base memory address.

5. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein each command is stored in a first memory location, and the completion status of each command is written to a second memory location different from the first memory location.

6. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein the commands are grouped into categories, and the completion status of commands in each category are written to different blocks of memory locations.

7. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 6 wherein the commands are grouped into categories depending on their execution times.

8. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 6 wherein the commands are grouped into categories depending on which of a plurality of resources executes them.

9. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 6 wherein each block of memory comprises a plurality of memory locations.

10. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 6 wherein each block of memory comprises a single memory location.

11. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1 ~~2~~ wherein the value to be written indicates the command's original location.

12. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture, comprising:

a machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon to:

issue a plurality of operational descriptors ~~commands~~ from a controller, wherein the operational descriptors ~~commands~~ are issued in a first order and wherein each operational descriptor ~~command~~ includes a command, a memory address identifying a memory location to which a ~~the~~ completion status of the command will be written, and a value to be written upon completion of the command; and

indicate the completion status of commands in a second order, wherein the second order is different from the first order.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 12 ~~13~~ wherein the memory address included in the operational descriptor ~~command~~ is an absolute address.

15. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 12 ~~13~~ wherein the memory address included in the operational descriptor ~~command~~ is an offset from a base memory address.

16. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 12 ~~13~~ wherein the value to be written indicates the command's original location.

17. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 12 wherein each command is stored in a first memory location, and the completion status of each command is written to a second memory location different from the first memory location.

18. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 12 wherein the commands are grouped into categories, and the completion status of commands in each category are written to different blocks of memory locations.

19. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 18 wherein the commands are grouped into categories depending on their execution times.

20. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 18 wherein the commands are grouped into categories depending on which of a plurality of resources executes them.

21. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 18 wherein each block of memory comprises a plurality of memory locations.

22. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 18 wherein each block of memory comprises a single memory address.

23. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a controller ~~adapted~~ to accept a plurality of operational descriptors ~~commands~~, wherein the operational descriptors ~~commands~~ are issued in a first order and wherein each operational descriptor ~~command~~ includes a command, a memory address identifying a memory location to which a ~~the~~ completion status of the command will be written, and a value to be written upon completion of the command; and

wherein a completion status of each command is indicated in a second order, and wherein the second order is different from the first order.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the commands are grouped into categories, and wherein the completion status of commands in each category are written to different blocks of memory locations.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein each block of memory locations comprises a plurality of memory locations.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein each block of memory locations comprises a single memory location.

28. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a controller ~~adapted~~ to accept a plurality of operational descriptors ~~commands~~, wherein the operational descriptors ~~commands~~ are issued in a first order and wherein each operational descriptor ~~command~~ includes a command, a memory address identifying a memory location to which a ~~the~~ completion status of the command will be written, and a value to be written upon completion of the command;

a plurality of computational units, wherein the units execute ~~the plurality of~~ commands from the respective operational descriptors; and

a memory, wherein a completion status of commands is written to the memory in a second order, and wherein the second order is different from the first order.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the commands are grouped into categories, and the completion status of commands in each category are written to different blocks of memory locations.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein each block of memory locations comprises a plurality of memory locations.

32. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein each block of memory locations comprises a single memory location.

33. (New) A computer implemented method comprising:

issuing a plurality of operational descriptors to a controller, each operational descriptor comprising a command; and

initiating executing the commands in a first order; and

indicating a completion status of each command, as each command completes, in the order that it completes, which is different from the first order.

34. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 33 wherein each operational descriptor further comprises a memory address identifying a memory location to which the completion status for its respective command will be written, and a value representing the completion status to be written upon completion of its respective command.